

220215US0CONT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :
NAOKI USUI ET AL : EXAMINER:
SERIAL NO.: NEW APPLICATION :
FILED: HEREWITH : GROUP ART UNIT:
FOR: ANION REGULATOR FOR
RUMINANTS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, Applicants respectfully request entry and consideration of the following amendments and remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1-4, without prejudice toward the further prosecution of these claims in a Continuation and/or Divisional Application.

Please add the following new claims:

5. (New) A method for anion regulation in a ruminant, comprising feeding to a ruminant in need thereof a feed which comprises an effective amount of a neutral hydrochloride of an amino compound.
6. (New) The method of Claim 5, wherein said neutral hydrochloride of an amino compound is selected from the group consisting of lysine monohydrochloride, ornithine

monohydrochloride, and arginine monohydrochloride.

7. (New) The method of Claim 6, wherein said ruminant is fed said feed approximately three weeks immediately prior to parturition.

8. (New) The method of Claim 6, wherein said ruminant is fed said feed in an amount sufficient to result in a urinary pH of said ruminant of 6.5 to 5.5.

9. (New) The method of Claim 5, wherein said neutral hydrochloride of an amino compound is lysine monohydrochloride.

10. (New) The method of Claim 9, wherein said ruminant is fed said feed approximately three weeks immediately prior to parturition.

11. (New) The method of Claim 9, wherein said ruminant is fed said feed in an amount sufficient to result in a urinary pH of said ruminant of 6.5 to 5.5.

12. (New) The method of Claim 5, wherein said neutral hydrochloride of an amino compound is ornithine monohydrochloride.

13. (New) The method of Claim 12, wherein said ruminant is fed said feed approximately three weeks immediately prior to parturition.

14. (New) The method of Claim 12, wherein said ruminant is fed said feed in an amount sufficient to result in a urinary pH of said ruminant of 6.5 to 5.5.

15. (New) The method of Claim 5, wherein said neutral hydrochloride of an amino compound is arginine monohydrochloride.

16. (New) The method of Claim 15, wherein said ruminant is fed said feed approximately three weeks immediately prior to parturition.

17. (New) The method of Claim 15, wherein said ruminant is fed said feed in an amount sufficient to result in a urinary pH of said ruminant of 6.5 to 5.5.

SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENTS

Applicants have canceled Claims 1-4 and added new Claims 5-17. Support for new Claim 5 can be found on page 10, lines 4-13, and page 17, lines 4-7. Support for Claims 6, 9, 12, and 15 can be found in Claim 2, as originally filed. Support for Claims 7, 10, 13, and 16 can be found on page 10, lines 4-7. Support for Claims 8, 11, 14, and 17 can be found on page 10, lines 8-13.

No new matter has been added. Claims 5-17 are active in this application.

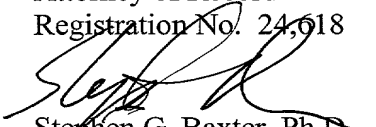
REMARKS

Applicants submit that the application is now ready for examination on the merits, and early notification of such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Docket No. 220215US0CONT
APPLICATION SERIAL NO.: NEW APPLICATION

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IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1-4, without prejudice toward the further prosecution of these claims in a Continuation and/or Divisional Application.

Please add the following new claims:

--5. (New) to 17. (New)--